

Attorney Docket No. 071815/0478

JAN 22 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 071815/478

OFFICIAL

In re reissue patent application of

Richard E. SKLAR et al.

Serial No: 09/584,477

Application for reissue of U.S. Patent No.
5,760,819, granted June 2, 1998

Filed: June 1, 2000

For: DISTRIBUTION OF A LARGE NUMBER OF LIVE TELEVISION
PROGRAMS TO INDIVIDUAL PASSENGERS IN AN AIRCRAFT**SUPPLEMENTAL BROADENING REISSUE DECLARATION**
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.175Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We, Richard Sklar, Lawrence Girard, and Ralph Phillipp declare that:

1. Our residence, post office address and citizenship are stated below next to our names.

2. We believe we are the original, joint, and first inventors of the subject matter described and claimed in our U.S. Patent 5,760,819 and in the foregoing specification for which a reissue patent is sought on the invention entitled **DISTRIBUTION OF A LARGE NUMBER OF LIVE TELEVISION PROGRAMS TO INDIVIDUAL PASSENGERS IN AN AIRCRAFT.**

3. We have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified

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specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to in this SUPPLEMENTAL BROADENING REISSUE DECLARATION, and by any new claims added as specifically referred to in this SUPPLEMENTAL BROADENING REISSUE DECLARATION.

4. We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to examination of the application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a).

5. There are no foreign applications or inventors certificates having a filing date before that of the applications on which priority is claimed.

6. We believe U.S. Patent No. 5,760,819 ("the '819 patent") is wholly or partly inoperative or invalid by reason of our claiming less than we had the right to claim in the patent.

7. One specific error was for us not to include claims which recite:

(Reissue claim 10) A satellite television system that provides television channels to each passenger on an aircraft derived from at least one satellite, said system comprising:

(a) an antenna that comprises a steering device for steering the antenna toward the at least one satellite in response to control signals supplied thereto;

(b) an antenna controller to provide the control signals to the antenna and for processing status signals derived from the antenna to steer the antenna so that it is locked onto encoded RF signals transmitted by the satellite, and for downconverting the encoded RF signals to provide downconverted RF signals that correspond to encoded television channels, the control signals being based directly on the encoded RF signals output from the antenna;

(c) a receiver coupled to the antenna controller to process the downconverted RF signals to obtain encoded output signals corresponding to the television channels, the encoded output signals corresponding to at least one digital data stream;

(d) a modulator coupled to the receiver for modulating the encoded output signals to provide modulated and encoded signals, wherein the modulator modulates the at least one digital data stream with an RF carrier to create the modulated and encoded signals;

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(e) a distribution system coupled to the modulator for distributing the modulated and encoded signals to each passenger's seat; and

(f) seat electronics circuitry coupled to the distribution system for demodulating, decoding and D/A converting the modulated and encoded signals into signals that are provided to said each passenger's seat.

(Reissue claim 11) The system of claim 10, wherein the downconverted RF signals correspond to left hand and right hand circularly polarized downconverted RF signals.

(Reissue claim 12) A method of providing a plurality of programming channels obtained from at least one satellite, to a plurality of passengers on an aircraft, said method comprising:

steering an antenna towards the at least one satellite;

downconverting encoded RF signals transmitted by the at least one satellite to provide encoded, polarized RF signals that correspond to a plurality of encoded programming channels;

processing the downconverted encoded RF signals to provide encoded video and audio output signals corresponding to the plurality of programming channels;

modulating the encoded video and audio signals;

distributing the modulated and encoded video and audio signals to a plurality of passenger seats;

receiving the modulated and encoded video and audio signals at each of the plurality of passenger seats; and

demodulating, decoding and D/A converting the modulated and encoded video and audio signals into signals that may be viewed and heard by a passenger at a seat.

8. By this reissue declaration, we desire to seek broadened claims, and, this application for reissue of the original Letters Patent addresses the aforementioned errors in claiming less than we were entitled to claim by including new independent claim 10 which does not specify an unnecessary feature in claim 1 of feeding back status signals using a receiver/decoder, by adding new dependent claim 11 that further defines the downconverted RF signals, by adding new independent claim 12 that does not specify an unnecessary feature in claim 9 of using a display and headphones and that describes the encoded signals as being left hand and right hand circularly polarized signals. Support for the above new claims exist in Figure 1 of the Letters Patent and the accompanying

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description of that figure in the specification.

9. We believe that the errors recited above and being presented for correction in this reissue application arose without any deceptive intention on our part.

WHEREFORE, We pray that we may be allowed to surrender the original Letters Patent 5,760,819 and do hereby offer same.

We hereby appoint Stephen A. Bent, Reg. No. 29,768; David A. Blumenthal, Reg. No. 26,257; William T. Ellis, Reg. No. 26,874; John J. Feldhaus, Reg. No. 28,822; Peter G. Mack, Reg. No. 26,001; Brian J. McNamara, Reg. No. 32,789; Sybil Meloy, Reg. No. 22,749; George E. Quillin, Reg. No. 32,792; Bernhard D. Saxe, Reg. No. 28,665; Richard L. Schwaab, Reg. No. 25,479; Harold C. Wegner, Reg. No. 25,258; Phillip J. Articola, Reg. No. 38,819; Joseph N. Ziebert, Reg. No. 35,421, and Kyle Eppele, Reg. No. 34,155, as our attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith, and request that all correspondence be sent to Rockwell International Corporation, Intellectual Property Division, 400 Collins Road, NE, M/S 124/323, Cedar Rapids, IA 52498; telephone number 319-295-8280.

The undersigned petitioners declare further that all statements made herein of their own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

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Richard E. SklarSignature: Richard E. Sklar Date: 7 JAN 2004

Residence: 8121 Dartmoor Drive, Huntington Beach, CA 92646

Post Office Address: Huntington Beach, CA Citizenship: U.S.

Lawrence E. GirardSignature: Lawrence E. Girard Date: 01/06/2004Residence: ~~15722 Cromwell Court, Westminster, CA 92683~~ ²¹ 17382 Mayoral St ²¹Post Office Address: ~~Westminster, CA~~ ²¹ Huntington Beach, CA ²¹ Citizenship: U.S.Huntington Beach
CA 92647**Ralph P. Phillipp**Signature: Ralph P. Phillipp Date: 01/06/2004

Residence: 16062 Davis Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92649

Post Office Address: Huntington Beach, CA Citizenship: U.S.